

Thursday, February 12, 1998

# Daily Digest

## Senate

### Chamber Action

#### *Routine Proceedings, pages S679-S794*

**Measures Introduced:** Twenty-eight bills and five resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 1635-1662, S. Res. 176-178, and S. Con. Res. 76 and 77. Pages S730-31

**Measures Reported:** Reports were made as follows:

S. 1248, to authorize the Secretary of Transportation to issue a certificate of documentation with appropriate endorsement for employment in the coastwise trade for vessel SUMMER BREEZE. (S. Rept. No. 105-161)

S. 1272, to authorize the Secretary of Transportation to issue a certificate of documentation with appropriate endorsement for employment in the coastwise trade for the vessel ARCELLA. (S. Rept. No. 105-162)

S. 1235, to authorize the Secretary of Transportation to issue a certificate of documentation with appropriate endorsement for employment in the coastwise trade for the vessel registered as State of Oregon official number OR 766 YE. (S. Rept. No. 105-163)

S. Res. 148, designating 1998 as the "Onate Cuatrocenenario", the 400th anniversary commemoration of the first permanent Spanish settlement in New Mexico, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. Page S730

#### **Measures Passed:**

**Recognizing Vietnam POW's:** Senate agreed to S. Res. 177, recognizing, and calling on all Americans to recognize, the courage and sacrifice of the members of the Armed Forces held as prisoners of war during the Vietnam conflict and stating that the American people will not forget that more than 2,000 members of the Armed Forces remain unaccounted for from the Vietnam conflict and will continue to press for the fullest possible accounting for all such members whose whereabouts are unknown. Pages S716-19

**Legal Counsel Representation:** Senate agreed to S. Res. 178, to authorize production of Senate documents and representation by Senate Legal Counsel in

*United States f.u.b.o. Kimberly Industries, Inc., et al. v. Trafalgar House Construction, Inc. et al.* Pages S790-91

**National Sea Grant College Program Reauthorizations:** Senate concurred in the amendment of the House to S. 927, to reauthorize the Sea Grant Program, clearing the measure for the President. Pages S726-27

**Energy Policy and Conservation:** Senate concurred in the amendment of the House to the amendment of the Senate to H.R. 2472, to extend certain programs under the Energy Policy and Conservation Act, with the following amendment: Pages S728-29

Coverdell (for Murkowski) Amendment No. 1645, in the nature of a substitute. Pages S728-29

Senate insisted on its amendment and requested a conference with the House thereon. Page S729

**Military Construction Appropriations—Veto Message—Agreement:** A unanimous-consent time-agreement was reached providing for the consideration of the veto message to accompany H.R. 2631, disapproving the cancellations transmitted by the President on October 6, 1997, regarding Public Law 105-45, on Wednesday, February 25, 1998. Page S727

**Authority for Committees:** Committees were authorized to file executive and legislative reports during the adjournment of the Senate on Thursday, February 19, 1998, from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m., with an exception. Pages S727-28

**Nominations Confirmed:** Senate confirmed the following nominations:

Michael B. Thornton, of Virginia, to be a Judge of the United States Tax Court for a term of fifteen years after he takes office.

Donald C. Lubick, of Maryland, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Treasury.

L. Paige Marvel, of Maryland, to be a Judge of the United States Tax Court for a term of fifteen years after she takes office.

Richard W. Fisher, of Texas, to be Deputy United States Trade Representative, with the rank of Ambassador. Pages S725-26, S794

**Nominations Received:** Senate received the following nominations:

7 Navy nominations in the rank of admiral.

Routine list in the Air Force. **Pages S793–94**

**Nominations Withdrawn:** Senate received notification of the withdrawal of the following nominations:

John H. Bingler, Jr., of Pennsylvania, to be United States District Judge for the Western District of Pennsylvania, which was sent to the Senate on July 31, 1997.

Lynne Lasry, of California, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of California, which was sent to the Senate on February 12, 1997. **Pages S729, S794**

**Messages From the House:** **Page S730**

**Executive Reports of Committees:** **Page S730**

**Statements on Introduced Bills:** **Pages S731–69**

**Additional Cosponsors:** **Pages S769–70**

**Amendments Submitted:** **Page S777**

**Notices of Hearings:** **Pages S777–78**

**Authority for Committees:** **Page S778**

**Additional Statements:** **Pages S778–90**

**Adjournment:** Senate convened at 9:30 a.m., and adjourned at 5:31 p.m., until 10 a.m., on Friday, February 13, 1998, for a pro forma session.

## Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

### AUTHORIZATION—DEFENSE

*Committee on Armed Services:* Committee resumed hearings on proposed legislation authorizing funds for fiscal year 1999 for the Department of Defense and the future years defense program, focusing on Air Force programs, receiving testimony from F. Whitten Peters, Acting Secretary of the Air Force; and Gen. Michael E. Ryan, USAF, Chief of Staff of the Air Force.

Committee recessed subject to call.

### UNFUNDED MANDATES

*Committee on the Budget:* Committee concluded hearings on the implementation of the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (P.L. 104–4), and on S. 389 and provisions of H.R. 1010, measures to establish a point of order against congressional consideration of bills that contain private-sector mandates with costs over the \$100 million threshold, regardless of whether federal funding is provided, and to direct the Congressional Budget Office to provide expanded cost information for private-sector mandates above the threshold, after receiving testimony from Representatives Condit and Portman; James L. Blum, Deputy Director, Congressional Budget Office; R.

Bruce Josten, U.S. Chamber of Commerce, and Sharon Buccino, Natural Resources Defense Council, both of Washington, D.C.; and John Nicholson, Company Flowers, Arlington, Virginia.

### NOMINATION

*Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation:* Committee concluded hearings on the nomination of Winter D. Horton Jr., of Utah, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, after the nominee, who was introduced by Senator Bennett, testified and answered questions in his own behalf.

### SATELLITE CARRIER FEES

*Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation:* Committee concluded hearings on S. 1422, to provide for a one-year delay in an increase in the copyright fees satellite carriers pay for superstation and network affiliate signals delivered to satellite TV households, after receiving testimony from Fritz Attaway, Motion Picture Association of America, and Gene Kimmelman, Consumers Union, both of Washington, D.C.; Eddy W. Hartenstein, DirecTV, Inc., El Segundo, California; and Larry Wetsit, Nemont Telephone Cooperative, Inc./Nemont Communications, Inc., Scobey, Montana.

### AIRPORT IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

*Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation:* Subcommittee on Aviation concluded hearings on proposed legislation authorizing funds for the Airport Improvement Program, after receiving testimony from Todd Hauptli, American Association of Airport Executives, Alexandria, Virginia; David Plavin, Airports Council International-North America, and Edward A. Merlis, Air Transport Association of America, both of Washington, D.C.; Robert Kunkel, National Association of State Aviation Officials, Silver Spring, Maryland; and David Roberts, BAA Indianapolis, Indianapolis, Indiana.

### PUBLIC LANDS/NATIONAL MONUMENTS

*Committee on Energy and Natural Resources:* Subcommittee on National Parks, Historic Preservation, and Recreation concluded hearings on S. 62, to prohibit further extension or establishment of any national monument in Idaho without full public participation and an express Act of Congress, S. 477, to require an Act of Congress and the consultation with the Governor and State legislature prior to the establishment by the President of national monuments in excess of 5,000 acres, S. 691, to ensure that the public and the Congress have the right and opportunity to participate in decisions that affect the use and management of all public lands, H.R. 901, to preserve the sovereignty of the U.S. over public lands